

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-08

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USMTN, USEEC

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:ETRD, MTN, IT

SUBJECT:ITALIAN SUPREME COURT RULING ON DRUG PATENTS

1. ACCORDING TO 3/21 WALL STREET JOURNAL ITALY'S 1939
LAW BANNING DRUG PATENTS WAS FOUND UNCONSTITUTIONAL.
ARTICLE FURTHER STATES THAT DRUG PATENTS ARE TO BE
IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE.

2. ITALIAN EMBASSY, HOWEVER, SAYS THAT LEGISLATION
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MUST BE ENACTED IN ORDER FOR DRUG PATENTS TO BE ISSUED.
THIS COULD CONCEIVABLY TAKE YEARS. IF LEGISLATION MUST
BE ENACTED PLEASE INFORM US OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE BILL.

3. PLEASE SEND TRANSLATION OF ITALIAN SUPREME COURT
DECISION (OR KEY SECTIONS THEREOF) AND ANY INFORMATION
YOU HAVE ON THIS ISSUE. WE ARE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED

IN QUESTION OF WHETHER COURT DECISIONS REQUIRES GOI TAKE
PROMPT ACTION TO GRANT DRUG PATENTS OR WILL ALLOW CONTINU-
ING INDEFINITE DELAY WHILE LEGISLATION IS ENACTED.
INFORMATION NEEDED ASAP SO WE CAN DETERMINE WHETHER TO
PURSUE THIS ISSUE IN MTN. VANCE

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Message Attributes

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